United Nations A/50/712/Add.2

General Assembly
Fiftieth session

Distr.: General
25 March 1996
Original: English

Agenda item 135

Financing of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

Summary

The present document contains the preliminary report on the disposition of the assets of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda. The estimated inventory value of the Mission's assets as at 19 October 1995 was approximately $62.5 million. The proposed disposal of the Mission's assets is consistent with the guiding principles endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994, taking into account the unique circumstances and recent history of Rwanda.

The action to be taken by the General Assembly, as set out in paragraph 11, includes taking note of the preliminary report on the disposition of the Mission's assets and approval of the donation of non-lethal equipment to the Government of Rwanda.

96-07235 (E) 080496

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I. Introduction

1. The Security Council in its resolution 1029 (1995) of 12 December 1995 adjusted the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) and extended the Mission for a final period until 8 March 1996. By that resolution, the Security Council also requested the Secretary-General to initiate planning for the complete withdrawal of UNAMIR within a period of six weeks after the expiry of its mandate and to examine, in the context of existing United Nations regulations, the feasibility of transferring the Mission's non-lethal equipment, as elements of UNAMIR withdrew, for use in Rwanda.

2. In a letter dated 13 February 1996 from the President of the Security Council (S/1996/103), the members of the Security Council urged the Secretary-General, in the light of the unique circumstances and recent history of Rwanda, to employ flexibility, while staying within the bounds of the regulations established by the General Assembly, in resolving the question of the disposition of UNAMIR equipment.

3. The disposition of the assets of peace-keeping operations is guided by the proposals of the Secretary-General contained in his report of 25 May 1994 (A/48/945 and Corr.1, para. 110) and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report of 18 November 1994 (A/49/664, para. 116), which were endorsed by the General Assembly in section VII of its resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994. The guiding principles are as follows:

   (a) Equipment in good condition that conforms to established standardization or is considered compatible with existing equipment will be redeployed to other United Nations operations elsewhere in the world or will be placed in reserve to form the start-up kits for use by future missions;

   (b) Equipment not required by other peace-keeping missions but which may be useful for operations of other United Nations agencies, international organizations or non-governmental organizations and which it is not feasible to keep in reserve will be sold to relevant agencies or organizations;

   (c) Any equipment or property not required or which it is not feasible to dispose of in the above manner or which is in poor condition will be subject to commercial disposal within the country, following standard United Nations regulations and procedures;

   (d) Any surplus mission assets remaining after disposition under the terms of paragraphs (a) to (c) above, and/or any assets which have already been installed in the country and which, if dismantled, would in fact set back the rehabilitation process of the country, will be contributed to the duly recognized Government of the respective country. This refers in particular to airfield installations and equipment, bridges and mine-clearing equipment.

4. The Advisory Committee, after reviewing the proposals of the Secretary-General, recommended in respect of paragraph 3 (d) above that the following be taken into account: (a) all efforts should be made to obtain from the Government its agreement to compensate the United Nations in a mutually acceptable form (contributions, services, tax exemption, etc.) for the residual value of any surplus mission assets installed in the country which could not be otherwise disposed of; and (b) the General Assembly should, as a matter of principle, be requested to approve any such disposition of mission assets which would provide for free-of-charge contribution to the Government.

II. Political mandate

5. In its resolution 1050 (1996) of 8 March 1996, the Security Council, *inter alia*, stressed its concern that the United Nations should continue to play an active role in assisting the Government of Rwanda in promoting the return of refugees, in consolidating a climate of confidence and stability and in promoting the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Rwanda. The Council also encouraged the Secretary-General, in agreement with the Government of Rwanda, to maintain in Rwanda a United Nations office, to be headed by his Special Representative and to include the present United Nations communications system and radio station, for the purpose of supporting the efforts of the Government of Rwanda to promote national

reconciliation, strengthen the judicial system, facilitate the return of refugees and rehabilitate the country's infrastructure, and of coordinating the United Nations efforts to that end.

III. Preliminary report on the disposition of the assets of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda

6. On the basis of the original value of all assets held by UNAMIR, excluding transportation and installation costs, as at 19 October 1995 the total value of assets was estimated at approximately $62.5 million. These assets have been classified into four groups as indicated in the annex to the present report, according to the principles set out in paragraph 3 above and taking into consideration the cost-effectiveness of their removal from the mission area. In addition, the assets have been placed into nine general categories covering accommodation, air transport, communications, mine clearing, electronic data-processing, office, vehicular and other equipment, and generators. The proposed distribution of the assets is provisional and is subject to change.

7. Group I comprises 65.6 per cent of all assets and has an inventory value of approximately $41 million. These assets have been earmarked for transfer, at no cost, to other peace-keeping operations (UNAVEM, UNCRO, UNIFIL, UNIKOM, UNMIH, UNOMIL), to United Nations offices (United Nations headquarters, MINUGUA, International Tribunal for Rwanda, United Nations offices in Burundi and Rwanda, International Commission of Inquiry in Burundi), or to the United Nations logistics base at Brindisi for temporary storage and future use. Included in this group are the communications equipment and radio station referred to in Security Council resolution 1050 (1996), which are to remain in Rwanda in United Nations custody. Assets from this group, valued at $19.8 million, have already been transferred to other operations.

8. Group II consists of assets with an inventory value of approximately $6.2 million and represents 10 per cent of the total value of UNAMIR assets. These assets have been earmarked for transfer, at cost, to the extrabudgetary programmes undertaken by the United Nations offices/programmes and agencies operating in Rwanda (UNEP, UNESCO, UNDP, UNHCR, human rights field operations in Rwanda and Burundi, Emergency Response and Humanitarian Assistance Unit). Assets of this group with an inventory value of $1.8 million have already been transferred.

9. Group III comprises non-lethal assets valued at approximately 9.2 million (14.7 per cent of UNAMIR total asset value) which are earmarked for donation to the Government of Rwanda.

10. Group IV assets with no remaining useful life, valued at approximately $6.1 million, will be made available to the Government of Rwanda. This group includes assets that have been written off as a result of accidents and damage caused by natural elements and acts of war, abandonment due to the past security situation in Rwanda and loss owing to theft.

IV. Action to be taken by the General Assembly at its fiftieth session

11. The action to be taken by the General Assembly at its fiftieth session in connection with the financing of UNAMIR is as follows:

(a) To take note of the preliminary report on the disposition of the assets of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda;

(b) To approve the donation of non-lethal equipment to the Government of Rwanda.

Annex

Disposition of assets: preliminary summary statement (original values)

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Category of equipment	Group I. Transfer to other peace-keeping operations/United Nations offices at no cost				Group II. Transfer to United Nations offices within Mission area at cost				Group III. Donation to Government of Rwanda		Group IV Write-off		Grand total
	Already distributed	Proposed distribution	Subtotal	% of total	Already distributed	Proposed distribution	Subtotal	% of total		% of total		% of total	
1. Accommodation equipment	5,338.0	191.0	5,529.0	35.0	1,184.3	2,154.1	3,338.3	21.1	5,355.9	33.9	1,579.5	10.0	15,802.7
2. Air transport equipment	-	-	-	-	5.4	86.1	91.6	100.0	-	-	-	-	91.6
3. Communications equipment	1,510.8	6,225.1	7,735.9	91.9	259.4	31.5	290.9	3.5	173.8	2.1	220.4	2.6	8,421.0
4. Mine-clearing equipment	-	73.6	73.6	100.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	73.6
5. Electronic data-processing equipment	48.0	973.9	1,021.9	56.3	20.4	154.9	175.3	9.7	399.3	22.0	219.7	12.1	1,816.2
6. Generators	51.3	882.6	934.0	33.1	313.8	145.5	459.3	16.3	1,152.8	40.9	273.2	9.7	2,819.3
7. Office equipment	3.2	321.5	324.7	42.6	12.7	138.8	151.5	19.9	195.6	25.6	90.9	11.9	762.8
8. Other equipment	269.9	4,909.5	5,179.3	97.6	1.0	15.0	16.0	0.3	54.0	1.0	59.9	1.1	5,309.2
9. Vehicular equipment	12,611.0	7,578.9	20,189.9	73.7	34.2	1,673.4	1,707.6	6.2	1,861.1	6.8	3,645.7	13.3	27,404.3
Subtotal	19,832.2	21,156.1	40,988.3	65.6	1,831.3	4,399.2	6,230.4	10.0	9,192.5	14.7	6,089.3	9.7	62,500.6

Figure. Distribution of UNAMIR assets